

the Omen



Table of Contents

For the first issue in the 35th Volume of the Omen on September the 23th in the Year of our Lord 2010

LIES

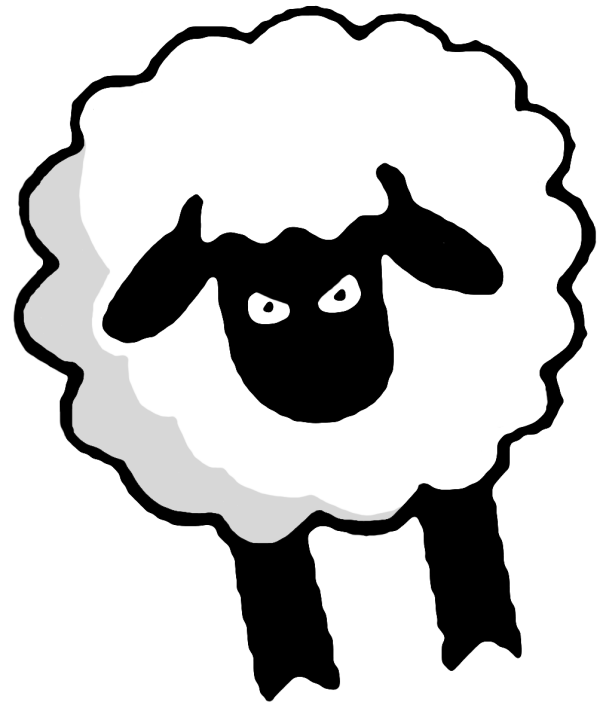
Report of the Hampshire College Divestment Office, Summer 2010	4
A Drawing	4

SPEAK

O Essay, My Essay	5
On Display III	5
How I Spent My Summer Vacation (2010)	6
The Back of My Thumb	10
We Want Your Penis	10
Another Drawing	10

HATE

Smack-o-Lantern	11
Cut-paper House	11



To Submit:

Submissions are due always, constantly, so submit forever. You can submit in rich text or plain text format by CD, Flash Drive, singing telegram, carrier pigeon, paper airplane, Fed-Ex, Pony Express, or email. Get your submissions to omen@hampshire.edu or Ian McEwen, Box 286.

"I think the mystique for the penis is probably gone if you are a urologist" -Evan

Front Cover: Ben Batchelder
Back Cover: Stephanie Schmidt
Layout: Ian McEwen

Layout & Editing STAFF

Ian McEwen	<i>Poorly concealed memes</i>
Evan Silberman	<i>Thirty Pages of Flaccid Penises</i>
Panda Mills	<i>Ninja Zapdos Riding a Mew</i>
Rachel Ithen	<i>Thirty Pages of Kittens</i>
Alex Wenchel	<i>A heavy dose of pornography and love</i>
Ben Batchelder	<i>Ken Burns Exposé: Antebellum Penises</i>
Daniel Eareckson	<i>Where people submit stuff</i>
Stephanie Schmidt	<i>Elmo's heroin journey into the world of crack addiction and prostitution</i>
Jalana Sloatman	<i>Rocky Horror or Toilet Paper</i>
David Axel Kurtz	<i>09 F9 11 02 9D 74 E3 5B D8 41 56 C5 63 56 88 C0</i>

omen.hampshire.edu

EDITORIAL

The Omen is about Penes Now

by Ian McEwen

Welcome to the new semester. For those of you that don't know, penes is one of the pluralizations of "penis" which the Oxford English Dictionary lists. It's pronounced so as to rhyme with "genies."

The Omen is apparently entirely about penes now. Literally all the people sitting in this office are discussing, with great passion, penes. It's pretty amusing.

So enough about penes. Welcome to the new semester! Should you, dear reader, submit many and various things that are not penes, then the Omen will in fact not be entirely about penes. So you should do that! We have, at long last, actually started using the email omen@hampshire.edu, so that's the place to send things. Should you not desire to email your submission, but rather submit a physical entity, you should send it to Box 286 or hand it to one of the Omen people, some of whom you may know.

Alternatively, you could come to Omen layout, which happens every other Thursday at 8pm in the Merrill A

Basement. It's one of the unlabeled black doors, but if it's the time of layout it'll be sitting there open. We have fun. We sometimes talk about penes.

We've moved from human penes to animal penes at this point.

413-296-POOP-COCKS-FARTS-DICKS, as Evan says. I'm relatively sure that is not the phone number for Sibie's.

...

So yeah, come to layout. This semester will be awesome.



Policy

The Omen is a biweekly publication that is the world's only example of the consistent application of a straightforward policy: we publish all signed submissions from members of the Hampshire community that are not libelous. Send us your impassioned yet poorly-thought-out rants, self-insertion fan fiction, MS Paint comics, and whiny emo poetry: we'll publish it all, and we're happy to do it. The Omen is about giving you a voice, no matter how little you deserve it. Since its founding in December of 1992 by Stephanie Cole, the Omen has hardly ever missed an issue, making it Hampshire's longest-running publication.

Your Omen submission (you're submitting right now, right?) might not be edited,

and we can't promise any spellchecking either, so any horrendous mistakes are your fault, not ours. We do promise not to insert comical spelling mistakes in submissions to make you look foolish. Your submission must include your real name: an open forum comes with a responsibility to take ownership of your views. (Note: Views expressed in the Omen do not necessarily reflect the views of the Omen editor, the Omen staff, or anyone, anywhere, living or dead.)

The Omen staff consists of whoever shows up for Omen layout, which usually takes place on alternate Friday nights in the basement of Merrill on a computer with an extremely inadequate monitor. You should come. We don't bite. You can find the Omen on other Fridays in Saga, the post office, or on the door of your mod.

The Omen Haiku

Views in the Omen (5)

Do not necessarily (7)

Reflect the staff's views (5)

SECTION **LIES**

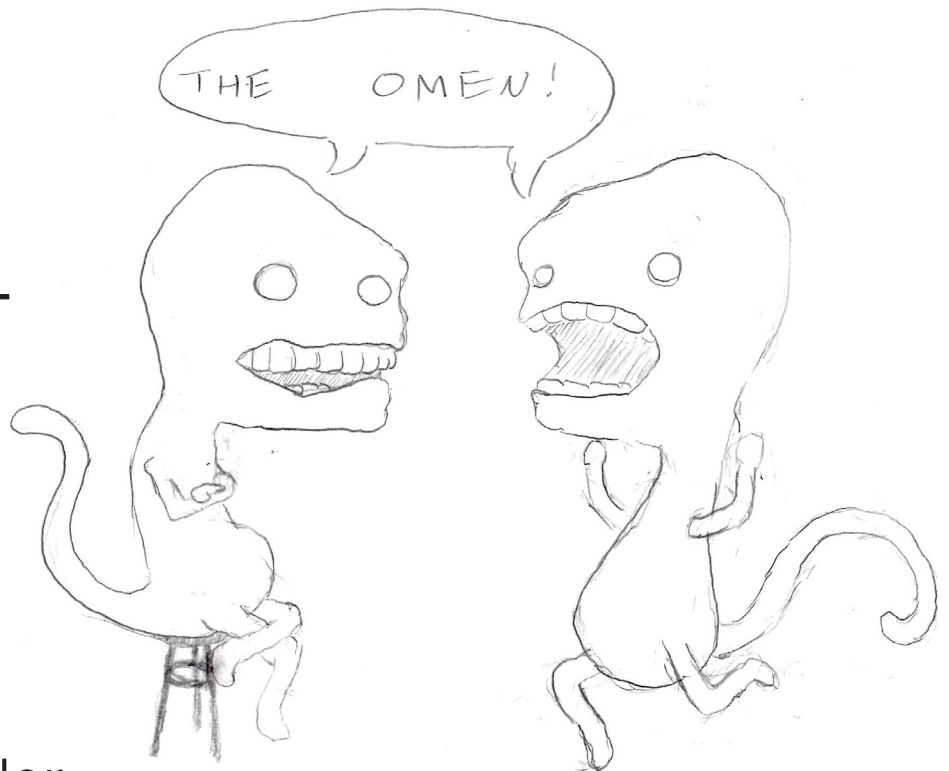
Report of the Hampshire College Divestment Office, Summer 2010

by Evan Silberman

In keeping with the current campus climate, Hampshire's newly-established Divestment Office spent the summer vigorously divesting from its ethically toxic assets, including the following:

- The People's Republic of China
- Syria
- Iran
- NAFTA
- Likud
- Hamas
- High fructose corn syrup

- Pasteurized milk and dairy products
- Red Bull
- Rational discourse
- South Africa again, just in case
- Foreskins
- The Church of Scientology
- Gauge earrings
- Sunscreens below SPF 15
- Trolley problems
- The Repugnant Conclusion
- Spitting
- Cigarettes



by Ben Batchelder

SECTION **SPEAK**

O Essay! my Essay! your thoughts are so well formed,
My teacher loves your thesis and my peers are likewise
stunned,

Your theme is strong, ref'rence list long, your
research sound and stable,

While praise awaits your bold ideal, your rhet'ric
good and able;

But O dear! dear! dear!

Such ability to stun,
The curser is still blinking, and
You remain undone.

O Essay! my Essay! Print out and get your grade;
Print out – for you the deadline waits – for you the
notes were made,

For you journals and sources search'd – for you
the teacher waiting,

For you he asks, my teacher good, his pen ready
for grading;

Dear Essay! poor midterm!

This bibl'ography begun,
Awaits your structured paragraphs,
Yet you remain undone.

My essay is not graded, it has no marks of red,
And the note cards lie a-scattered, upon the desk in-
stead,

The class brings forth finish'd products, papers
thicken'd with prose,

Each student glad for deadlines made before the
grades are closed;

Have joy, my peers! Good work, turn in!

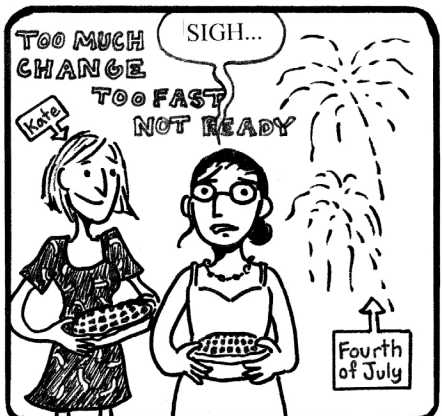
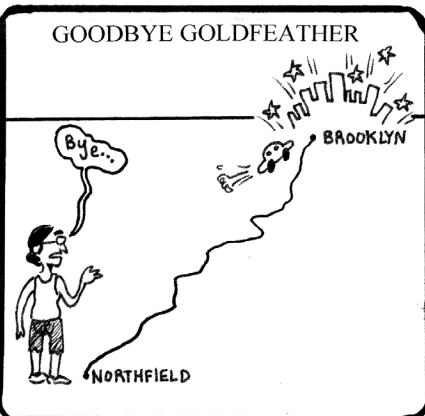
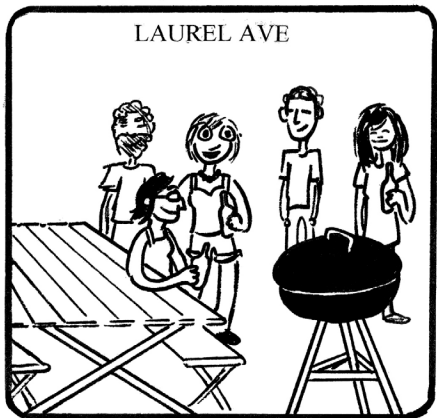
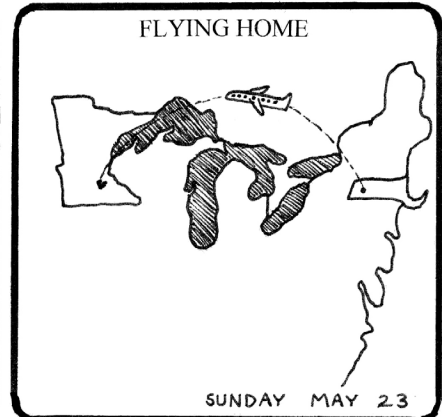
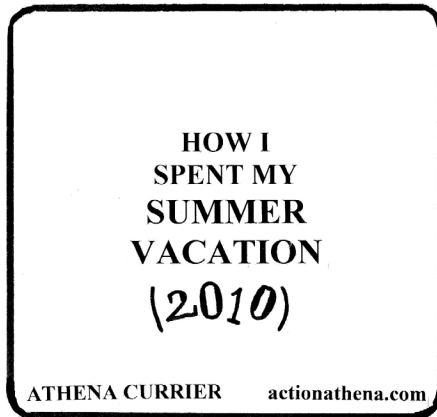
But I with head low hung,
Think on my lofty essay,
It remains undone.

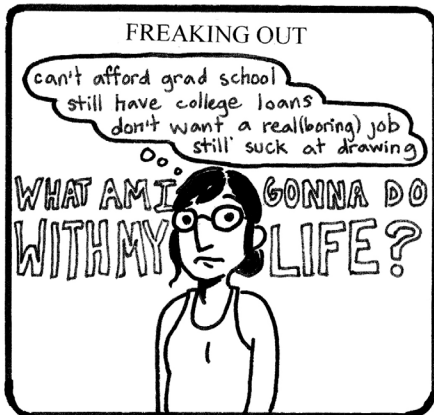
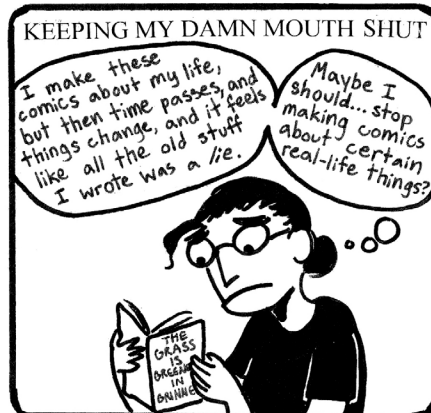
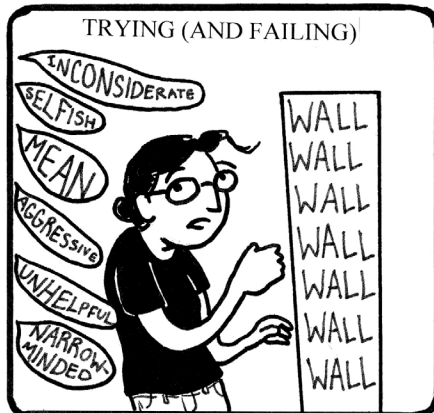
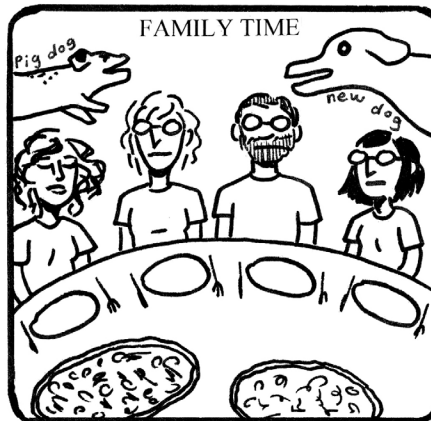


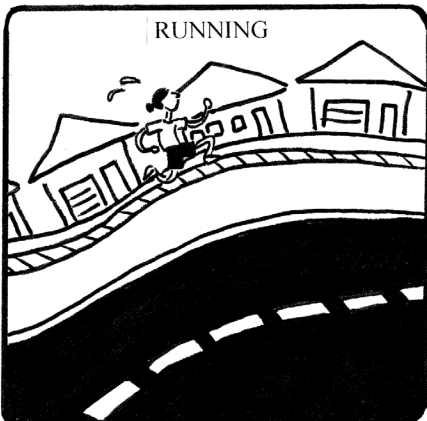
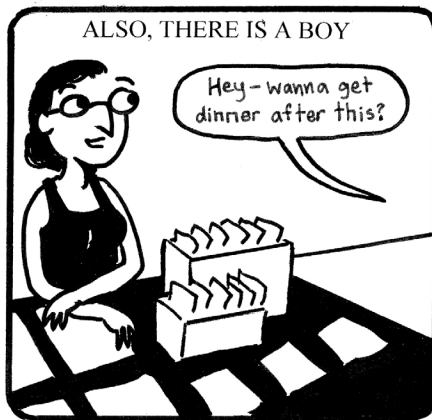
On Display III by Jalana Sloatman

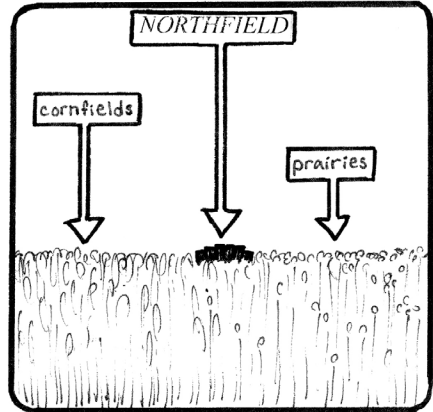
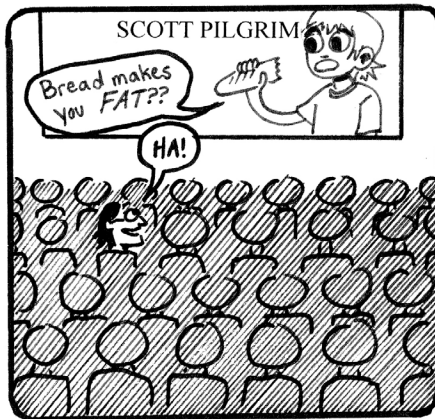


O Essay, My Essay! by Jalana Sloatman









The End of the summer of 2010.

The Back of My Thumb

by Rachel Ithen

There's nothing like sitting in the freshly furnished Omen office amongst piles and piles of old issues once again desperately brainstorming for something to write. I, of course, spent my entire summer telling myself that by the time I returned to Hampshire my laptop would be full of articles

and stories and whatnot to submit to the Omen. But like almost every summer, all productivity was lost and now I sit here with a blank page attempting to type something remotely interesting. But isn't that the beauty of the Omen? It doesn't even matter if what I submit is well written or at all amusing (though I hope it is) because this is

still going to be published and, chances are, at least one of you Hampsters is going to read it.

But even when it almost does not matter what I say, I still need to say something. But, what?

Rachel: "I have no idea what to write."

Ben: "Write about the back of your thumb." art by Ben Batchelder

We want your penis! an announcement from Evan Silberman

Specifically, my collaborator and I want to publish pictures of about 50 flaccid penises in the Omen. No faces will be photographed, and names of subjects will not be published in the final work. Photographs will only be published in a print edition of the Omen, and will not be placed on the Internet or exploited for any other purpose. Please email penises@jklol.net if you are interested in an appointment to take your picture. People of any gender with a penis are welcome to participate. Subsequent projects may incorporate other body parts.

The back of my thumb is boring.

The back of all my fingers are pretty boring, to be honest. Ben tells me that in some book or movie or something a classroom of kids were told to write essays about the back of their thumbs and they had so much to say that most of them asked to stay after class to continue writing. So what the hell is wrong with the back of my thumb?

Let's take a break from our previously scheduled babbling for some amusing quotes from Omen layout tonight.

Evan: "Can we take a picture of me and Alex spooning for the cover?"

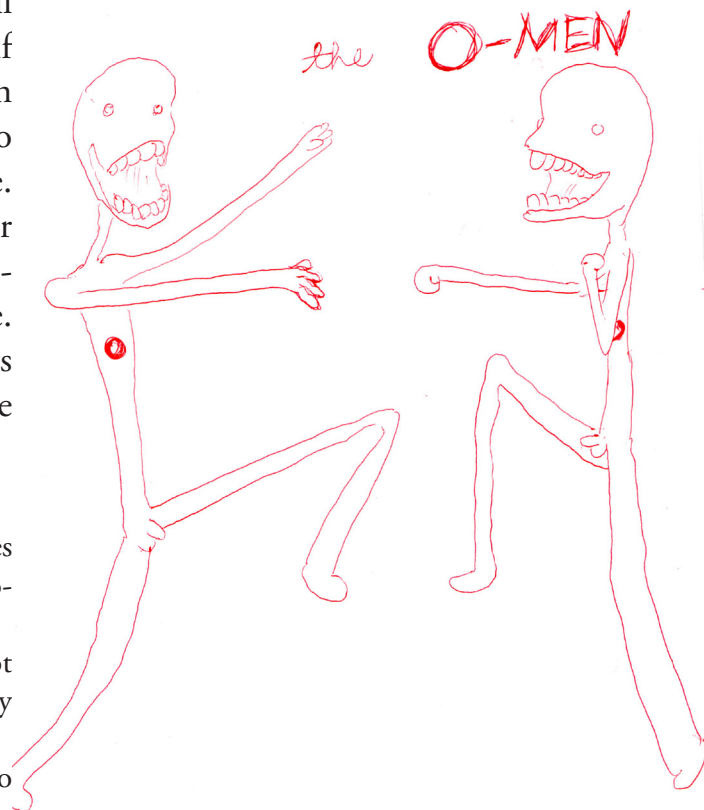
Alex (much later): "Can we just take naked pictures of Evan and publish them in the Omen? [...] Ooh, can we do it in nature?"

Alex: "If I submitted a picture of my penis for a deck of cards and it was on the two of clubs, I would feel cheated."

Evan (while trying to remember a phone number): "Four one three, two nine six... poops, farts, cocks, dicks."

Ben: "That actually rhymed"

Rachel: "That was beautiful."



SECTION **HATE**

Smack-o-Lantern

To Those In Charge of Spending Hampshire's Money:

Can we bear it? Can the ego of Hampshire survive the elimination of its tradition of festive excess? Is it even expected of us to live up to the high expectations that the Rolling Stone magazine imposed on us in 1995?

What I am getting at, for those of you who do now know, is the wide vat of fiscal vomit reserved each year for Hampshire's infamous "Trip-or-Treat" celebration. And if we are ever to reprioritize our budget and eliminate unnecessary spending, Halloween is probably the best place to start.

Here is last year's Halloween budget (2009).

Tent (Creedon--Confirmed)
- \$6,012.80

Bands/DJs (Confirmed)
-\$2150

Lighting (Limelight--Confirmed) - \$8,425

Sound (Sonix Pro Audio--Confirmed) - \$5,535.50

Public Safety (Public Safety & Wizzard Security--Confirmed) - \$7,000

Entrance Costs- \$100

Water & Food (Sodexo--Confirmed) - \$1090

Ambulance (Amherst Fire--Confirmed) - \$1200

Fire Detail (Amherst Fire--Confirmed) - \$800.00

Fire Permit (Amherst Fire--Confirmed)- \$85

Advertising (Duplications [Xerox, Inc.]--TOTAL- \$250

Fireworks (Atlas Fire--Confirmed) - \$3500

EMS (HCEMS--Price Confirmed, Waiting on Payroll, labor, food, & supplies)-- \$1300

Student Group Events (Internal--Confirmed) - \$1200

Perm. Equipment:

Glowsticks (Grossman Marketing--Confirmed) -

\$507
Two-Way Radios (Midland INC.--Confirmed) - \$394.23

Bulk Candy (Target Inc--Confirmed & BulkCandy Warehouse--Confirmed) 399.00

Subtotal-\$1300.23

*** Total: \$40,048.53 ***

(Source: Hampedia)

What truly grinds my gears is the glorious futility of it all. The more money we spend on this massive loud party, the more money we must spend ensuring nobody dies. And for what? I'm no party pooper; I enjoy a good

shindig as much as the next guy, but this is the definition of excess, \$40,000 blown away on one night of orgiastic bacchanal. Are we trying to impress the kids from Amherst, to show them a party like they've never seen before? Are we trying to make the Smith girls gasp as they step off the PVTA bus, a look of dumb-founded awe stretching across their painted faces as they absorb the sheer scope of the event?

Hampshire is such a multifaceted place that it cheapens it to reduce it to one drug-crazed party binge, especially one

whose roots are so, you know, pagan. Can't we choose something else to symbolize Hampshire's rebellious spirit? What about Lemelson? WHAT ABOUT THE COWS?

As for the students, who ought to feel no guilt as this situation is inherently out of their hands,¹ I urge you to make the most of whatever this administration decides to throw at you this year. Dance. Gorge. Hallucinate. And be well.

**With Love,
Ben Batchelder**

1 Except for those of you whose hands it is, in fact, in --ed.



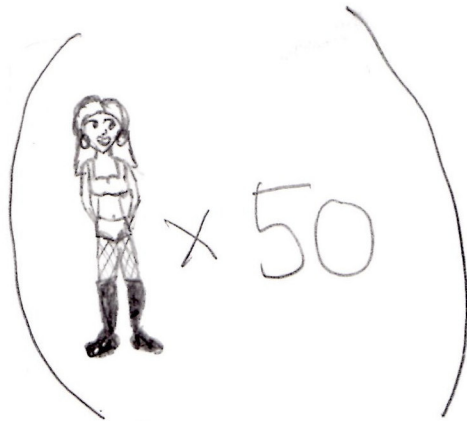
art by Daniel Eareckson

(made by cutting paper)

THE OMEN

proudly presents ...

50 CONCURBINES &
A HORSE



+

GREAT FOR
PARTIES!



ADD
PIZZAZ TO
YOUR NEXT BUSINESS
PRESENTATION!

YOU'VE
GOT THE
PROMOTION,
BILLY



MAKE A BAD
DECISION
TODAY!

Stop by Omen office for more information